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Record of Consultations
by
The Hawaiian Cabinet Ministry

1846 —

Attorney Generals Office
Honolulu 17th March 1846

To His gracious Majesty

Sir.

I have to crave your Majesty's pardon for submitting to your Majesty the enclosed statement of what occured at your Majesty's Palace this day between Her Britannic Majesty's Consul General and your Majesty's most humble servant.

No provocation was given by me to such a scene and the resentment which I might unhappily have shown on any other occasion and in any other place was restrained by duty to your Majesty.

I beg your Majesty to interpose your prerogative for the preservation of your Palace and to shield your officers from such assaults.

Your Majesty's humble Servt.
(Sigd) John Ricord

Honolulu, Oahu,
Hawaiian Islands

Personally appeared before me on this 17th day of March 1846 at 5 o'clock P. M. John Ricord Esquire His Majesty's Attorney General who being duly sworn deposed as follows:

The presentations to His Majesty had taken place I had left the presence to witness what was passing in front of the Palace. I stood near the entrance to the Anteroom, when General William Miller approached me hastily and with a most pallid countenance, trembling with suppressed rage, touched my arm saying in an under tone he wished to speak with me. We entered the Ante room where in full hearing of numerous visitors he charged me with being an upstart, a vile person and a coward, said I had assailed and traduced his character without provocation and asked me how I dared to allude to his private transactions and his family matters? I replied that he had incited me by an unprovoked attack which had come to me by mere chance and bore his well known signature — that I had suppressed the letter he alluded to at his request

to Mr. Wyllie, Minister of Foreign Relations, but his present behaviour would oblige me to publish it and its causes. He asked me if I would be so mad as to publish that letter to which I replied in the affirmative. At this moment Mr. Ricci & lady had entered the Anteroom and were seated upon a sofa very near us. General Miller still in great rage asked me to the open Palace Veranda where, he said he was prepared to fight me in any way at the same time laying his hand upon his sword. I told him that was not the place for such a scene but if he was desirous to fight I would receive a written message from him. He replied a written message was unnecessary we understood each other and could settle the affair without written Communications saying he would not incur the risk of committing himself on paper. He then proceeded to heap epithets upon me of "Coward," "Upstart" and "unknown," to which my only retort was I held him in utter contempt for conduct which neither became H. B. M's. Consul General or the late Consul of Peru. At

this crisis information having reached the King of what was transpiring His Highness the Premier interposed himself between us in His Majesty's name".

Which declaration the deponent stated to be in substance what had this day occurred between Her Britannic Majesty's Consul General & himself af= fixing his signature hereto.

Subscribed & sworn to
this 17th March 1846 (Sig'd) John Ricord

Before me
(Sig'd) Lorin Andrews
Judge in Foreign cases.

Honolulu 20th March 1846

At a meeting of the Cabinet convened by order of His Highness the Premier to consider a complaint of violence and indecorum of Consul General Miller at the Palace on the 17th inst.

Present — His Highness the Premier
" His Excellency G. P. Judd Minister of the Interior
" William Richards Esq.
" Hon. John Ricord Atty. Gnl.

It was enquired why His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations had absente

himself and resolution was taken to address him a note of interrogation on the subject.

P. C. 20th March 1846

Whose a question touching the Consul General, so unfavorably I think that in delicacy & propriety, as an old friend & former officer of his, I ought to be excused from attending.

(Sig'd) A.C. Wyllie

To His Highness
The Premier

In Cabinet Council
March 20th 1846.

Sir,

Your Colleagues of the Cabinet Council cannot accept your reasons as an excuse from Conferring with them in regard to the complaints preferred against Consul General Miller, and they have adjourned their meeting until to morrow 21st at 3 oclock P. M. at the Palace when they trust you will see proper to attend notwith-

standing your objections.

By order of the Premier

(Sig'd) G. T. Sud

His Excellency

R. C. Wyllie

Minister of Foreign Relations